

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An authentication apparatus, comprising: an existence confirmation signal receiver which in order to receive an existence confirmation signal outputted from a portable information terminal at a first time interval, is set to a reception mode capable of receiving said existence confirmation signal at a second time interval, only during a third time interval equal to or longer than said first time interval; an existence notice signal transmitter which transmits said existence notice signal serving as response of said existence confirmation signal to said portable information terminal when said existence notice signal is received; a link connection unit configured to establish a wireless link with said portable information terminal after said existence notice signal has been received by said portable information terminal; an authentication unit configured to conduct authentication with said portable information terminal through said wireless link; and a control command transmitter which transmits a control command for an operation apparatus which conducts a prescribed operation when said authentication has been succeeded.